

Why Marriage Matters in America

Social Health

Better Health – Physical & Mental
Less Injury, Illness, Disability
Longer Life
Children Physically Healthier
Children Emotionally Healthier
Lower Infant Mortality
Lower Child Abuse
Lower STD Rates

Children's Achievement

Greater Overall Success in School
Better Reading Abilities
More Likely to Attend College
More Likely to Get High Status Job
Less Likely to Divorce When Married
More Likely to Marry

Overall Social Impact

Better Parent/Child Relationship
Lower Crime Rates
Lower Domestic Violence
Lower Teen Pregnancy
Lower Juvenile Delinquency
More Educated Citizens
Higher Home Ownership
Higher Property Values
Higher Income and Savings

Marital Success

VS

Marital Failure

Social Health

Higher Teen Alcohol/Drug Rates
More Domestic Violence
More Sexual Assault
Teens More Sexually Active
Teens More Likely to Smoke
Teens More Likely to Use Drugs
Greater Overall Violence
High Stepparent/Other Sexual Abuse
Greater Depression
Higher Rates of Suicide

Children's Achievement

More Likely to Repeat a Grade
More Likely to Be Expelled
More Likely Developmental Problems
More and Worse Social Problems
Lower Reading, Spelling & Math Scores
Low Self-Confidence & Self-Esteem
Difficulty with Peer Pressure Relationships
More Likely to Drop Out of School

Overall Social Impact

Increased Out of Wedlock Births
Higher Delinquency & Crimes
Higher Risk of Being Crime Victim
More Violent Crimes
More Teens Carrying Weapons
More Crimes Leading to Jail
Increased Need for Social Services
Higher Risk of Poverty



www.CaMarriage.com

Source: Administration for Children and Families, Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.
www.acf.hhs.gov/healthymarriage/benefits
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